

I can tell you one thing, though, traffickers and buyers know about this legislation. With the help of local and State and Federal law enforcement, we are going to stop this sale of our children and adult women here in the United States for money.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, this week, as the House of Representatives considers human trafficking legislation, I am proud to continue working with colleagues from both sides of the aisle to raise awareness on the heinous practice of human trafficking and to work together to eradicate it from our communities.

I thank my friend and classmate, Congresswoman ANN WAGNER of Missouri (MO-02) for organizing tonight's Special Order Hour.

Human trafficking—where people profit from the control and exploitation of others—occurs both here at home and abroad on a daily basis.

In fact, the International Labour Organization estimates that there are 20.9 million victims of human trafficking globally—68% of them are trapped in forced labor, 26% of them are children, and 55% are women and girls.

And in my home state of Ohio, human trafficking for sex and labor is on the rise.

According to recent reports from the Polaris Project, a nonprofit that tracks trafficking in the U.S. and abroad, 375 Ohio trafficking cases were reported from 1,352 calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2016. In 2015, there were 289 cases based on 1,070 calls. The 2016 numbers reflect a nearly four-fold increase over the Ohio figures from 2013.

While the overall increase in reporting can be partly attributed to greater awareness of the national hotline, we know, and officials confirm, that trafficking is, unfortunately, chronically under-reported.

We must do more to help trafficking victims and to encourage people when they see something that looks like an individual is being trafficked, that they say something.

Victims of human trafficking often live in the shadows of our society, so it is up to all of us to help identify and rescue victims of trafficking.

While human trafficking spans all demographics, there are some circumstances or vulnerabilities that lead to a higher susceptibility to victimization.

Runaway and homeless youth, as well as victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, are frequently targeted by traffickers.

Men and women, boys and girls, who are all alone, abused, and often believe they have nowhere to go.

Well, we can help. We must do more to assist victims of trafficking and provide them with the services and treatment necessary to regain control of their lives.

We must also ensure the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes is focused on the traffickers, the people assisting the traffickers, and the purchasers—the individuals who are the real criminals in the enterprise.

Almost two years ago, the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—or the JVTA—was signed into law. The JVTA is helping to update efforts to combat the scourge of human trafficking and provided essential resources to survivors and law enforcement officials.

I am proud to have had a provision included in this comprehensive legislation and to have taken part in its drafting, passage, and enactment.

Mr. Speaker, since the JVTA's enactment, we have witnessed important achievements, but we cannot stop here.

We must continue to work together to eradicate human trafficking and support the victims. Tonight, I pledge to continue to working with my colleagues to raise awareness and fight back against human trafficking, because as we all know, one victim of human trafficking is one too many.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of traveling with the Vice President to Louisiana for official business.

Ms. MCSALLY (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for after 12 p.m. today and for the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mr. KIHUEN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 4 p.m. and tomorrow.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 366. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department's vehicle fleet, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1420. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Daniel B. Allyn, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1421. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [Docket Nos.: 120328229-4949-02 and 150121066-5717-02] (RIN: 0648-XF210) received

May 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1422. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final specifications — Pacific Island Fisheries; 2016 Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures [Docket No.: 160422356-7283-02] (RIN: 0648-XE587) received May 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1423. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [Docket No.: 150121066-5717-02] (RIN: 0648-XF259) received May 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1424. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare Program; Advancing Care Coordination Through Episode Payment Models (EPMs); Cardiac Rehabilitation Incentive Payment Model; and Changes to the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Model (CJR) [CMS-5519-F] (RIN: 0938-AS90) received May 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DONOVAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. CURBELO of Florida):

H.R. 2617. A bill to provide first-time, low-level, nonviolent simple possession offenders under age 25 an opportunity to expunge that conviction after successful completion of court-imposed probation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. SÁNCHEZ):

H.R. 2618. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide further tax incentives for dependent care assistance; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2619. A bill to prohibit the Coast Guard from establishing any new anchorage grounds in the Hudson River, New York, until it reports to the Congress on the potential impact of such anchorage grounds to sites listed on the National Priorities List and to critical habitat; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. PEARCE,